

**Application of DONAHUE - Serial No. 09/610,005**

~~43. A computer programmed with computer software that carries out steps (1) to (5) of claim 38.~~

A<sub>1</sub> 44. The computer-assisted method of claim 38, wherein step (2) comprises the step of receiving a first ancillary value from the first negotiator representing a first proposed contract value corresponding to one of the predefined agreement provisions; wherein step (4) comprises the step of receiving a second ancillary value from the second negotiator representing a second proposed contract value corresponding to one of the predefined agreement provisions; wherein the method further comprises the step of:

(6) if the first ancillary value and the second ancillary value are different, generating a message identifying a discrepancy.

45. The computer-assisted method of claim 38, wherein step (2) comprises the step of receiving a first ancillary value from the first negotiator representing a first proposed contract value corresponding to one of the predefined agreement provisions; wherein step (4) comprises the step of receiving a second ancillary value from the second negotiator representing a second proposed contract value corresponding to one of the predefined agreement provisions; wherein the method further comprises the step of:

(6) if the first ancillary value and the second ancillary value are different, proposing a third ancillary value representing a compromise between the first ancillary value and the second ancillary value.

46. A computer readable medium storing computer readable instructions that, when executed by a processor, cause a computer to perform steps (1) to (3) of claim 36.

47. A computer readable medium storing computer readable instructions that, when executed by a processor, cause a computer to perform steps (1) to (5) of claim 38.

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**Remarks**


New claims 30-47 have been added. These claims are generally directed to a computer-

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assisted method and computer for negotiating an agreement that detects each negotiator's selection of an agreement or deferral choice to each agreement provision and, in response to detecting agreement, records the agreement in the computer. No new matter has been added.

If there are any questions the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 508-9160.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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